

BAN FORCED MOLTING OF HENS

We, the undersigned, urge the FDA to ban the cruel and unhealthy forced molting of hens.

Each year the U.S. egg industry force molts millions of hens to manipulate egg production. Hens are intentionally starved up to 14 days, as well as depriving the ~~hens of water~~. ~~Forced~~ molting is so stressful; it destroys the hens' immune system, predisposing the birds ~~and their eggs~~ to ~~salmonella~~ ~~poison~~.

Recent research shows that forced molting can be **harmful** to humans as well. USDA's own research shows that forced molting makes hen farms more susceptible to salmonella, exacerbating the food safety issue already plaguing the egg industry. The end results are diseased and ill birds and contaminated eggs.

FDA was petitioned last year to ban forced molting. We are again petitioning FDA to take the necessary and prompt action in banning the practice of induced molting. FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, which are harmful to the consumers' health.

NAME

ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)

Deniz Marie P.O. Box 5656 Redwood City CA 94063
 Mark Jeannette 4223 Potrero Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95062
 Kelly Ferguson 1277 Homewood Ave San Mateo CA 94403
 Hortencia De Jesus 778 Monreille Ave Burlingame CA 94010
 Phillie Sharp 438 N San Mateo Ave San Mateo 94401
 Kimberly Fester 112 Morris - Redwood City CA 94063
 Mark W Fester " " " "
 CHRISTINE JENSEN 530 Shannon Way #4215 Redwood City, CA 94065
 BARBARA HAUSMAN 1500 MARINA VISTA #417 SAN MATEO CA 94404
 Danielle Steele 433 Haight St. S.F. 94117
 GUZANNE NORGGAARD 3709 MARTIN DR. SAN MATEO CA 94403
 Heidi Norgaard 3709 Martin Dr S.M. CA 94403
 PETER ERNANI JR 101 LONDON COURT SAN BRUNO 94066
 LEE WIK 527 HILLCREST DR REDWOOD CITY, CA 94062
 Judith Wik " " "
 Erik Schultz 859 Cape Breton Pacifica CA 94044
 Gina DiStefano 1348 Crespi Dr. Pacifica Ca 94044
 Esti Young 1755 California dr #1 Burlingame, CA, 94010
 Olivia Tsang 1755 California dr #1 Burlingame, CA, 94010
 Sandra Elliott 12121 1/2 Garden Grove CA 92640

Thank you. Deniz Marie

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NAME	ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)
Magdalena Trenkner	218 Quay Ln Redwood Shores Ca 94063
Maureen Ambrosio	25815 E. LONG LN GREENWOOD MS 39212
Jennifer Townhill	835 Columbia Lake Foster City, CA 94404
Cheryl Bernard	2114 Forest Ave Belmont Ca 94002
Richard Townhill	835 COLUMBIA LAKE FOSTER CITY CA 94404
Margaret Smith	175 Browning Avenue Worcester Park Surrey KT4 8LE England
Susan A Tolbot	337 Catamaran St Foster City, CA 94404
David Tolbot	" " " "
Irving Lion	372A RUSH ST. MTN VIEW - CA 94041
Susan Martin	570 Laurent Rd Burlingame, CA 94010
Tony Luyman	221 BOARDWALK #A SAN BRUNO, CA 94066
Pamela L. Taylor	17 VERANO DR, So.S.F., CA 94080
Bj Purdy Gates	2125 Ashton Ave, Millbrae, Ca 94030
Vin Garis	1009 Flying Fish St. Foster City Ca 94404
Martin Kingshill	436 SONORA EL Granada CA 94018
Laura McMahon	" " "
Barbara L. Wilborn	779 Vespucci Lane - Foster City, CA 94404
THEODORE HIC	1941 PARKWOOD DR. SAN MATEO CA. 94403
Adele Green	1511 Ralston Ave. Belmont, Ca. 94002
PETE BIANCHI	1511 B DAY AVE SAN MATEO, CA 94403



Docket Management Branch
Food & Drug Administration, (HHS)
12420 Parklawn Drive, Rm 1-23
Rockville MD 20857

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